

## Ireas C. Cook Commercial Consul U.S. Consulate General Guangzhou, China

Ireas C. Cook is a career Foreign Commercial Service Officer with the U.S. Department of Commerce and is currently serving as the Commercial Consul at the U.S. Consulate General in Guangzhou, China. Her responsibilities include overseeing the operation of the Commercial Service in Guangzhou and leading a team of Commercial Specialists to promote U.S. exports to Southern China and protect U.S. business interests.

Ireas speaks multiple languages and is intimately familiar with international business. She previously served diplomatic assignments at the U.S. Consulate in Johannesburg, South Africa, the American Institute in Taiwan, Taiwan, and the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. While in Saudi Arabia, Ireas was recognized for her cross cultural ability to promote U.S. export in a demanding environment. In Taiwan, she managed a team that focused on many challenging issues, including U.S.-Taiwan pharmaceutical negotiations, intellectual property rights protection, technology standards, U.S. education promotion, and environmental technology trade promotion. In South Africa, Ms. Cook oversaw post administration and led in many international market development activities. Ireas received numerous awards for her contributions in advancing U.S business interests.

Prior to joining the U.S. Commercial Service, Ms. Cook worked many years for the Transamerica Group to develop overseas markets on behalf of the Company. Ireas is married and has three grown children who are currently residing in the U.S.